

# The Yodeler

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## May 2018

Dan Connell, 64 Robbins Road, Arlington, MA 02476

### Executive Board

President: *John Pinsky*

Vice President & Lodge Chair: *Peter Hardman*

Secretary: *Cindy Darcy*

Communications: Ann Redmon

Membership: *Joe Scholl*

Activities: *Eric Pearlman*

Treasurer: *Dan Connell*

## LexSki Membership Meetings

Meetings of the membership are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at First Parish Church, Lexington (by the Green) at 7:30 p.m. in Parker Hall (rear entrance, lower level) unless otherwise noted.

**The first family** listed is responsible for bringing the bins and for reminding the other families listed of their host and hostess duties. Host families are responsible for set-up before and clean-up after each meeting. The supply bins are passed along to hosts at each meeting. **If you can't serve, get a sub – in advance.** According to our contract with the church, **no nuts are allowed**, so please be sure that the food you bring is nut free.

May 15, 2018: **Ehrbar**, Fahy, Fox

June 8, 2018, 6:00: Family Picnic, 11 Saddle Club Road: **Freeberg**, Gardner, Garrigus

## President's Report

Spring is here, and that can only mean one thing—it's work weekend season. We have one work weekend in the books, with five more to go. Peter Hardman is still looking for weekend leaders. Contact him if you think you might want to help.

Many members enjoyed the annual wine tasting, reminiscing about the ski season. The move to Friday night for the 2nd straight year was a hit. A sincere thank you to Paul Cotran and Anne Kelly for hosting the party at their home. Thank you to Christophe and Johanna Couturier for procuring the wine and providing excellent details on each that all enjoyed.

It is budget time, folks. The budget committee has worked hard to figure out how to keep our costs low while managing some increases in costs. Thank you to all who participated in pulling the budget together. Dan will present the budget at the May membership meeting. I urge all members to attend this important meeting.

Also, because the membership level is a pressing concern, we have purchased a booth at Discovery Day in Lexington. This is an annual fair held Memorial Day Weekend (Saturday, May 26, 10a-3p) in the parking lot behind Michelson's Shoes (and Bodyscapes:). There are many food vendors and entertainment options, and local businesses and clubs advertise their services. It's a fun event for all those who have nowhere to go on Memorial Day Weekend...just the kind of people we need!

John ([jpinsky@one2onebodyscapes.com](mailto:jpinsky@one2onebodyscapes.com))

## Lodge Report

I encourage all members to get their work weekend commitments in early this year. Dates of currently planned weekends are below and on the website. I am still looking for hosts for a June weekend, along with hearing from any members who would like to do a work weekend in June.

June, and July are good weekends to do some work outside and enjoy a summer evening with your fellow ski club members after a day of getting the club into good shape. If you have not hosted a weekend before, don't worry; it's easier than hosting a normal ski weekend. If you're interested in hosting in June, let me know.

Because our membership is low at the moment, we need to be careful not to spend too much of our budget on large capital improvements (so that hot tub will have to wait). I am looking for suggestions from people for jobs that we can do that will have the greatest effect without spending too much. If you have any great ideas, let me know. It's everyone's club, so if you want to see something get done, just let me know.

June:	No date yet. Still looking for hosts.
July 21-22:	Butler
September 7-9:	Doctoroff
October 13-14:	Yee
November 17-18:	Fahy

For large groups, we have the LexSki Gran Fondo on July 14-15, hosted by Lou Savarino, and a large group for Dan Butler on August 17-19.

Please check the website for other large groups, and if you are planning on organizing one, let me know as far in advance as possible so we can get it on the calendar.

Peter Hardman  
Lodge Chair

## Treasurer's Report

As of May 4:	
Replacement Reserve:	\$23,500
Upcoming Maintenance:	\$14,470
<u>Operating MM:</u>	<u>\$32,053</u>
Savings account:	\$70,023
<u>Checking account:</u>	<u>\$2,549</u>
Total	\$72,572

The next meeting will be the budget meeting. The Finance Committee met recently to finish our proposed budget, which is presented below. If you have any comments or concerns, be sure to attend the May 15 meeting, where it will be presented. For it to be approved, at least 30 voting members must be present. The Finance Committee decided to leave the dues the same as they were last year. Although we have predicted that there will be an approximately \$2,400 deficit (some of the added expense will continue funding the Replacement Reserve fund), the club is in good financial shape, and because we are hoping to increase the number of members, we felt it best to leave dues alone for another year. As a point of reference, there is approximately \$11,000 more in the bank today than this time last year.

This budget was compiled with estimates based on historical data and what we know about the coming year. The largest unknown is income from dues. I sent out an e-mail about two weeks ago asking for anyone who thought they would be changing their membership status to let me know. I've received one response. If you think you may be changing status, please let Joe Scholl or me know as soon as you can. To get a better handle on this, a proposal to change the due date for dues from October 1 to July 1 will be discussed at the May meeting. As it stands now, we are one quarter into our fiscal year before we know for sure how many members will be returning, going inactive, or resigning.

	Approved Budget for FY 2017	Estimated Total at end of FY2017	Proposed Budget for FY2018
Dues and prepayments, active	\$64,600	\$57,904	\$53,385
Dues and prepayments, inactive	\$100	\$0	\$438
New member fees	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$3,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,700</b>	<b>\$61,404</b>	<b>\$57,573</b>
Cancellation fees	\$60	\$110	\$50
Extra room fees	\$4,600	\$7,434	\$6,750
Meals	\$17,000	\$15,806	\$16,700
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,660</b>	<b>\$23,350</b>	<b>\$23,500</b>
Interest income	\$30	\$60	\$65
Other income	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$65</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$87,390</b>	<b>\$84,814</b>	<b>\$81,138</b>
<b>Bar food</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b>\$528</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Cook</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>	<b>\$6,075</b>	<b>\$6,300.00</b>
<b>Food for meals</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$9,143</b>	<b>\$9,350.00</b>
<b>Kitchen help</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Kitchen supplies</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$69</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,750</b>	<b>\$15,815</b>	<b>\$16,550</b>
<b>Cable TV &amp; internet</b>	<b>\$2,073</b>	<b>\$2,053</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>
<b>Electric</b>	<b>\$2,450</b>	<b>\$2,010</b>	<b>\$2,450</b>
<b>Firewood</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$230</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Gas</b>	<b>\$3,800</b>	<b>\$2,453</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Oil</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>\$5,490</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>\$520</b>	<b>\$503</b>	<b>\$450</b>
<b>Trash</b>	<b>\$2,850</b>	<b>\$3,015</b>	<b>\$3,250</b>
<b>Water</b>	<b>\$700</b>	<b>\$320</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Sewer</b>	<b>\$512</b>	<b>\$492</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,105</b>	<b>\$16,566</b>	<b>\$18,350</b>
<b>Appliance purchases</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Building repairs</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$635</b>	<b>\$450</b>
<b>Caretaker wages</b>	<b>\$1,920</b>	<b>\$1,120</b>	<b>\$1,920</b>
<b>Chimney Cleaning</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$275</b>
<b>Fire safety</b>	<b>\$5,400</b>	<b>\$5,370</b>	<b>\$5,750</b>
<b>Furnace service</b>	<b>\$830</b>	<b>\$590</b>	<b>\$600</b>
<b>Groundskeeping</b>	<b>\$360</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Household supplies</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,089</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>
<b>Lodge insurance</b>	<b>\$1,400</b>	<b>\$9,085</b>	<b>\$9,133</b>
<b>Plowing</b>	<b>\$9,100</b>	<b>\$1,170</b>	<b>\$1,400</b>

Property tax	\$1,500	\$5,510	\$5,885
Roof snow removal	\$5,885	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,395</b>	<b>\$24,819</b>	<b>\$26,863</b>
<b>Mattresses</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>New furnishings</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Work weekend supplies</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$2,017</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Electrical</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Plumbing</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$2,196</b>	<b>\$5,750</b>
<b>Admin / treas expenses</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$119</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Advertising</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Charities</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Gifts</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Meetings</b>	<b>\$425</b>	<b>\$384</b>	<b>\$410</b>
<b>Insurance--officer liability</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,150</b>	<b>\$1,150</b>
<b>Workers comp ins</b>	<b>\$650</b>	<b>\$596</b>	<b>\$564</b>
<b>Packet costs</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$172</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Social committee</b>	<b>\$2,200</b>	<b>\$1,440</b>	<b>\$1,550</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,375</b>	<b>\$4,111</b>	<b>\$4,674</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>	<b>\$2,950</b>	<b>\$2,944</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>
<b>Loan principal early payoff</b>	<b>\$1,180</b>	<b>\$1,180</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Loan principal pay-down</b>	<b>\$4,870</b>	<b>\$4,876</b>	<b>\$5,219</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$7,819</b>
<b>RR funding</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$90,625</b>	<b>\$76,006</b>	<b>\$83,506</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>(\$3,235)</b>	<b>\$8,808</b>	<b>(\$2,368)</b>
<b>Monthly spending</b>	<b>\$7,552</b>	<b>\$6,334</b>	<b>\$6,959</b>

The table above shows the current FY2017 approved budget, what we are estimating will be spent and raised by the end of the FY2017 in June and the proposed budget for FY2018. As you can see, last year's budget predicted a \$3,235 deficit, but because of lower expenses, we may have a net income of about \$8,800. This is particularly noteworthy because, early in the FY, a much larger number of active members went inactive than anticipated, reducing our income by about \$7,000 from what was predicted in the budget. Since then, we have brought in one new family and are anticipating two more joining before the end of the fiscal year. This alone reduced the deficit in income by about \$4,000.

As was discussed at the March meeting, the E-Board is looking into a line of credit. We have contacted two banks and should have some specifics soon. The plan for this line of credit initially would be to have a safety net available if we were to use funds from the Operating Money Market account to pay off the existing \$39,000 furnace loan. Paying off this loan early could save us about \$2,600 in interest this year and more than \$10,000 over the remainder of the loan period, based on the assumption that the line of credit will be at a lower rate and that we would be borrowing less than the initial amount of \$75,000 if we were to access the line of credit to

make lodge improvements. think this last point is a safe bet. Please attend the May meeting to join in this discussion because this is a major financial decision.

As you can see in the above breakdown of the savings account, money has been set aside for replacement reserve (more than one quarter's worth of club operating expenses, e.g., oil, gas, real estate taxes, insurance, water, cable, phone—we spend about \$6,500/month), and upcoming maintenance (as determined by the Lodge Committee), with the remainder in the Operating MM, which will supplement the checking account as needed until dues start coming in this summer.

I again would like to thank Cindy Darcy, Rita McCarthy, Marc Garrigus, and Eric Pearlman, who volunteered to be on the Finance Committee.

Work weekends are starting soon. If you purchase any supplies, please use our account at Aubuchon Hardware in Lincoln if possible. At checkout, tell them to identify the purchase as "WW #1, paint" or something similar so I know what it was for. Take the receipt and give to the WW host, who will send to me—no reimbursement form needed. If you are purchasing supplies somewhere else with your own money, give the receipt to the WW host along with a reimbursement form. (WW hosts please bring some with you to the club). The WW host will sign the form and send to me along with reservation forms. This should all be done within one month of the WW, hopefully much sooner. Please do not send me a receipt without a signed reimbursement form, and do not send me a form during the ski season for something that was done in the summer. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lastly, there was some discussion about purchasing a propane grill for the club. There is still some money in this year's budget to do this. If someone or a few members would like to research this and bring a proposal to the club meeting, this can probably be done fairly quickly.

I hope to see you all at the May membership meeting.

Dan Connell  
Treasurer  
617-974-0293

## **Social Report**

Two events are coming up.

### **Family Picnic**

Friday, June 8 (rain date June 15), 6:00 (set up 5:15)

Where: Home of Ann and Gant Redmon, 11 Saddle Club Road, Lexington

### **Gran Fondo (long-distance bike ride)**

July 13-15

Where: Ski Club

Held last year at the ski club, the Gran Fondo was a great success. In addition to a long ride (80 miles), a shorter ride (30 miles) will be planned this year, along with a hike. In the evening, we'll have a BBQ, and a golf outing will be planned for Sunday. For more information about the bike ride, contact Lou Savarino:

lsavarino001@gmail.com or see [www.lexskigranfondo.wordpress.com](http://www.lexskigranfondo.wordpress.com). For golf or hiking questions contact Eric Pearlman or Les Yee.

Eric Pearlman, Social Committee Chair

[eric@pearlmangroup.com](mailto:eric@pearlmangroup.com)

617-510-0399

## **Membership Report**

The membership committee and eboard met with prospective member Betsy Stanford on May 1. We had a wonderful time chatting and feel that she would be a tremendous asset to the club, especially having grown up in it. If we hear no concerns in 14 days, we will be offering her a derivative membership.

On May 26, the club will have a booth at the Lexington Discovery Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot behind Michelson's Shoes. We could use your pictures of the inside and outside of the club to put into a slide show. Please send whatever you have to me.

Joe Scholl, Membership Committee Chair

781-799-3974